

## During Elba BOE meeting Superintendent says elementary reading program received "exceptional report"

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City School Board monthly meeting was held Tuesday night, Feb. 7th.

The board approved a new Worthless Check Policy as required by the state department of education. This approved policy sets a step by step system of notifying worthless check writers of the problem. The last section requires the maker of such checks to make payments in cash for the remainder of the school year.

The board renewed an agreement to use Family Services of Enterprise as the At Risk Community Agency. Such an

agreement is required for federal funds.

Superintendent Danny Weeks reported that the local system got an "exceptional report" on the ongoing intensive reading program in the schools. He said state department representatives visited every classroom and had very high praise for the reading progress being made in the Elba schools.

Weeks also briefly discussed legislative issues and what they can expect from the regular session of the Alabama legislature.

## CITY

(Continued from Page One)

noted that several departments were over budget due to special circumstances, but he was happy to report the overall spending was actually below budget.

The council voted to move forward with demolition of more of the old high school

building. Grimes said that for an additional \$15,000 the part of the building adjoining the old gym could be demolished. Included in this would be the removal of the remaining debris from knocking down the Jr High wing last year.

Monthly bills totaling \$137,106.86 were approved for payment. The mayor noted the \$14,456.90 bill from Waste Management for garbage pick-up should be the last major payment to that firm. The City of Elba assumed this responsibility on January 30th of this year.

City Clerk Wayne Grantham reported that the garbage pick-up transition was going smoothly. He added that the city crews are getting the old dumpsters out of the way and placing them in a staging area until Waste Away could pick them up.

Grimes said he is still disappointed with the vandalism within the city. He added that there were two more incidents of destruction of property last weekend. According to the clerk, the police are working these cases hard, and Elba will prosecute those caught for such acts.

Grimes reported that the Federal Aviation Authority has approved a grant of \$144,305 to Elba for acquiring land to extend the landing approach at the local airport.

He also noted that the dedication of the new diagnostic lab had been postponed until a later date.

McAliley said one of the first things Sheriff Thomas said to him when he assumed the job as

## SE Alabama Community Band plans Monday evening concert in Elba

The Southeast Alabama Community Band will perform a concert Monday, Feb. 20, at 7:30 p.m. in the Elba High School auditorium. The concert is free and the public is invited to attend. Dr. John M. Long, Conductor Emeritus of the Troy University Band is the conductor of this group.

The community band consists of adult members from many professions including school administrators, Troy University music faculty members, school band directors, physicians, and other business men and women.

The concert will consist of traditional overtures, marches, and Broadway show tunes that will be known by the audience. The featured conductor at the

Elba concert will be Tom Maddox, who will conduct Richard Wagner's beautiful composition "Elsa's Procession to the Cathedral".

Dr. Long said Tom Maddox is truly one of the very best conductors in the state, and the band is honored to have him conduct. Mr. Maddox is also a member of the community band and is the director of the Elba Elementary School Bands.

Of course, the community band will play some of the great Sousa Marches which all the lovers of band music enjoy so much.

The concert is sponsored by the City of Elba and the Elba School Band program. Come and bring the family for a night of American Band Music.

## MURDER

(Continued from Page One)

Elmore County.

"I feel very, very certain as the chief prosecutor that we now have the person responsible," District Attorney Gary McAliley said.

According to Thomas, local authorities requested and obtained a blood sample from the California scientist who performed an autopsy on Sims at the time of his death. From that sample, he said test results proved with a high degree of confidence that Sims was the source of the semen from the vaginal swabs taken from Reeves' body.

"This case has remained a top priority in the Pike County Sheriff's Department, the Twelfth Circuit District Attorney's office, the coroner's office and the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences for the past 12 1/2 years," said Thomas. "We all have continued to tirelessly investigate and pursue all leads and we never gave up hope this case would one day be solved."

After several months of preparation, Medlock spent Feb. 10-19 in Montgomery, Ala., as a participant in the 2006 Alabama Junior Miss Scholarship Program, an event where 52 young ladies competed for scholarship monies.

While the week was long and filled with many, many rehearsals, Medlock said she enjoyed the overall experience and made many good friends.

During the week, she said the program participants rehearsed everyday. Rehearsals were held for a fitness routine, self-expression routine and an opening number routine.

McAliley said one of the first things Sheriff Thomas said to him when he assumed the job as

district attorney as few years ago was there are some unsolved murders needing attention. He said that included two unsolved cases in Pike County and 12 unsolved cases in Coffee County.

## CCC

(Continued from Page One)

will be held on the Enterprise-Ozark Community College campus with the Senior Games on Thursday, April 13, and the Special Olympics on Friday, April 21.

Windham said he really appreciates the commissioners coming out for these events to help with the cooking, and he said he looks forward to their help again this year.

On behalf of the Coffee County Soil Conservation District, board member Martin Moates presented commissioners with three checks for reimbursement of funds on separate NRCS projects regarding erosion control. The checks were for \$11,637.65; \$47,664.36; and \$13,284.93.

In other business, commissioners:

• Approved a request from the county engineer to grant him permission to put several items in the JM Wood Auction;

• Approved a request from

the county engineer to grant him permission to place several other items for Internet auction;

• Approved a request of county administrator Wilson Mobley to authorize the chairman to sign documents for the Zion Chapel Senior Citizens Center grant;

• Approved a motion to allow Alabama Power to store power polls on county grounds at \$800 per month for three months;

• Approved a motion made by commissioner Stephens with a second from commissioner Linda Westbrook to authorize the county administrator to take out liability insurance on vehicles titled to the various senior centers until a question about liability insurance, on such items is cleared up.

The next meeting of the Coffee County Commission will be Monday, Feb. 27, at 9 a.m. in the community room of the county complex in New Brockton.

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# The Elba Clipper

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Elba, Alabama

Thursday, February 23, 2006

1 Section, 12 Pages

## Vandals continue to cause damage along walking trail of Elba's levee

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Officials with the City of Elba continue to search for the person(s) responsible for ongoing vandalism within the city.

Recently it was reported that vandals continuously damage the lights along the walking trail on top of the levee in the section between Caroline Street and Hwy. 189 (Kinston Hwy.).

Officials said this week that vandals have continued to cause damage in that area.

Elba city clerk Wayne Grantham said this is an ongoing problem for the city, and the problem area seems to always be the same. The only difference is which light the vandals choose to damage each time.

Grantham said the vandalism generally seems to take place during the weekend, usually either a Friday or Saturday night. As a matter of fact, he said vandals damaged one of the lights last weekend. When discovered, Grantham said the lighting unit had been kicked loose from a concrete structure and was lying on the ground.

It costs about \$300 each to replace the complete light unit. Most of the time, Grantham said it seems the vandals cause more damage closer to Caroline Street, but he said the unit damaged last weekend was about halfway between Caroline Street and the Kinston Highway.

City officials continue to look at ways to catch the person(s)

responsible for these acts of vandalism, and Grantham said they are moving forward with their efforts.

Officials hope local citizens also will help them in their attempt to capture the responsible person(s) as the walking trail is considered a nice asset for the community.

The person(s) responsible could face criminal mischief charges carrying a sentence of anywhere from one to 10 years in jail and a fine up to \$5,000 depending on the value of the property damaged.

Anyone noticing suspicious activity in this area is encouraged to contact the Elba Police Department at 897-2555 or Elba City Hall at 897-2333.

## Elba's Casey Medlock represents Coffee County at Alabama Junior Miss Scholarship Program

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Elba's Casey Medlock completed a journey last week that began August 13, 2005 after she was named Coffee County Junior Miss.

After several months of preparation, Medlock spent Feb. 10-19 in Montgomery, Ala., as a participant in the 2006 Alabama Junior Miss Scholarship Program, an event where 52 young ladies competed for scholarship monies.

While the week was long and filled with many, many rehearsals, Medlock said she enjoyed the overall experience and made many good friends.

During the week, she said the program participants rehearsed everyday. Rehearsals were held for a fitness routine, self-expression routine and an opening number routine.

However, it was not all work and no play.

Medlock said she and the other participants attending several outings to places such as the Montgomery Zoo and the Cattleman's Association. Also, she said various functions were held at night.

The participants spent the week as guests of host families, and Medlock said she had a nice house to go home to at night. Nothing there was a movie theater in the house.

The host families volunteer to open their homes to the Junior Miss participants, and Medlock said "they become your family that week."

She said the host family would wait up for her at night, as well as, feed and entertain. Also, she said she attended church on Sunday with her host family.



**NATIONAL GUARD FETED** Last Saturday night a volunteer group of Elba citizens welcomed the safe return home of the Elba members of the Alabama National Guard unit who recently returned from a one year tour of duty in Iraq.

The guardsmen were treated to a barbecue supper in the Westside Baptist Church activity building. Present were members of the guard unit, former members and local supporters who hosted the event. Also present were members of the late Sgt. Jason Jordan's family. Sgt. Jordan died in the war, prior to the deployment of the Elba Guard unit.

## Sen. Richard Shelby announces funds for rehabilitation center

Senate Appropriations Committee announced recently that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development will release \$277,880 for the City of Enterprise.

The funding will expand the Wiregrass Rehabilitation Center in the Enterprise Business Incubator.

Senator Shelby said, "I am pleased that these funds are being released to continue the good works at the Wiregrass Rehabilitation Center. USDA grants and loans are an invaluable tool for economic and job growth throughout Alabama."

The funding will create at least 10 new jobs and keep 43 existing jobs in Enterprise.

**REMINDER**  
The build week for the Elba Playground Project has been changed to Sept. 19-23.

Elba's Casey Medlock, center, was named the Overall Academics Preliminary winner during last weekend's 2006 Alabama Junior Miss Scholarship Program held at the Garrett Coliseum in Montgomery.

## Elba police officer returns to work after completing military duty in Iraq

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Elba Police officer Gerald Stanley returned last Friday, Feb. 17, to his duty of patrolling the streets of Elba alongside the other members of the police department; however, that duty is much different and many miles from the duty he fulfilled from Nov. 7, 2004 until Feb. 1, 2006.

Stanley, a member of the 3rd Battalion, 117th Field Artillery's National Guard unit of Elba, returned home Tuesday, Jan. 31, with his unit after 15-months of active duty in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. It marked the second time Stanley had completed an activation of duty since Operation Iraqi Freedom began.

While in Iraq, Stanley said his unit mostly provided security for military convoys from "Point A to Point B." He said it was their job to make sure each convoy got where it was supposed to go.

"I think we ended up with about a million miles of convoy transport," said Stanley. "We went on over 700 missions outside the wire."

Luckily, Stanley said the unit never lost anyone while in Iraq. He did say there was one member of the unit wounded, and he received the Purple Heart for his service.

Now, Stanley said he is definitely glad to be home. "More than you'll ever know," he insists.

So much in fact, he jokingly

said he has no problem with his "honey-do" list. More than anything, though, he said his service gave him a better perspective and a different outlook on things.

"I thought it would be hard to get back into routine," Stanley said. "But, things are falling back into place."

Elba Police Chief Freddy Hanchey said he definitely is glad to have Stanley back.

"First and foremost, I'm glad he's home safe," he said. "Also, though, it's nice to get some of our personnel back."

Hanchey said the department

has been operating understaffed for quite some time, and the return of Officer Stanley will alleviate some of the burdens caused by such things.

Hanchey said the department still has one officer actively deployed to Germany, but he is scheduled to also return later this year.

Stanley said Hanchey has been real helpful in getting him situated back in the job. Also, he said it has been real exceptional how everyone associated with

Please See DUTY, Page 12

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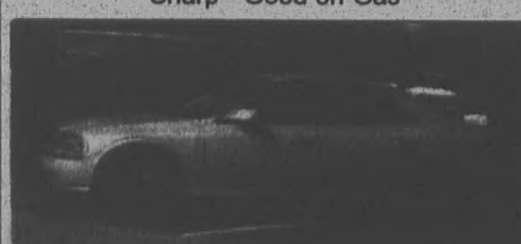
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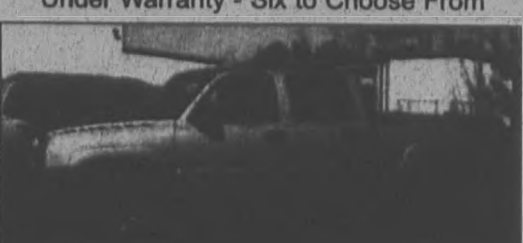
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## EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS  
With Ferrin Cox

No one person has more gripes with the U. S. Postal Service than this impatient newspaper publisher. The service seems to get worse every year. Having said that we quickly cite a glaring local exception. Back in December we had what could be called a "meltdown" in getting our weekly papers printed. The printer had an initial problem that just got worse. That resulted in an over 24 hour delay in getting the finished product back to our office. The post office was notified and put on alert that it was possible to get the local papers to their office by early Thursday morning. Well, the Clipper staff also got the Enterprise, New Brockton and Jack papers there at the same time. Now the amazing part . . . local postal folks got in their own cars and gave special delivery to those brown mail bags holding the papers for the three aforementioned communities! Never, ever have we known of such service. It was far and above the call of duty. Coming right behind our stressful two day ordeal, this all help from Heaven and humbly appreciated. Our thanks.

A school student in Florida did some private testing in fast food restaurants and her results are something most folks would rather not think about. The water in the toilets had fewer bacteria than the ice from the ice machines! A college professor explained the reasoning for this. The toilets are flushed (and cleaned) regularly. The ice machines are not cleaned as often and the bacteria collect and multiply. The upside is that at least one of the fast food restaurants asked the young lady to come back and check again . . . and also invited her to test their foods and cooking areas for bacteria.

Two (unsmat) kids in Clencoe, Ala decided to be copycats and set a small Etowah County church on fire. The accused, a 16-year-old boy and a 14-year-old girl apparently thought it would be cute to throw a fire bomb at the small building. They did and got caught. We wonder just how loud they are laughing today.

RadioShack CEO David Edmondson recently resigned after being accused of padding his resume. The man claimed two degrees from a bible college . . . one of the degrees that college didn't even offer. This sort of thing continues to amaze us. Here is a man who has risen high on the corporate ladder and still feels the necessity to stretch the truth . . . to the point of telling bald face lies. Shame.

Every time a settlement of the Dorsey bankruptcy case is postponed, the disappointment spreads wider. However it is not yet time to give up hope. It will be far better to know they are going very slow on the settlement, and getting it right, than to sit helplessly by and watch another shutdown of this Elba icon in a few years.

Following last week's comments about the House committee's education budget recommendation, we expected (and got) reactions from several school teacher types. While they still stand strongly for teacher pay raises, every one conceded they couldn't effectively do their job in classrooms with half a dozen or more leaks pouring in every time it rained. Granted every one of these who cornered us on the issue belong in the top level of dedicated teachers, but we would be shocked if a single teacher (working or retired) disagreed with the need for repairing the physical facilities of Alabama schools. They would probably also share our concerns of funding recurring expenses with "one time money".



WELCOME TO ELBA...Elba General Hospital hosted a welcoming reception for Dr. Timothy Jetton and his family Sunday afternoon, Jan. 29, at Olde South Inn. The reception served as a perfect opportunity for local residents to meet and get to know the doctor. He is shown above with his wife, Shelby, and son, Andrew.

## Note Of Thanks

The family of **JAY BARLETTE** would like to express gratitude for everything that was done for us during this time. We know where Jay is and we pray that each of you search your heart and make sure when it's your time that you will join him there. Again, thanks for all the love, food & prayers, for without it we could not have made it through.

Jeanette, T J & Brock

Ramblings from the Mind  
of Editor Linda Hodge

Valentine's Day was celebrated last week, and it seemed it was another day of roses for many. My sister was the recipient of a dozen roses from her boyfriend. Being a fanatic about the color pink, she got 12 pink roses instead of red ones. While she has been dating this fella for several years now, it still was quite the surprise for him to send a dozen roses. I believe she said her exact reaction was a jaw-dropping one. My guess is that he was probably trying to dig himself out of some sort of hole. Probably a good try. Anyway, as we discussed the day of roses at the house that evening, I made several jokes of yet another year without that someone special. Then, I had a revelation.... You know how men just won't ask for directions. Well, I've decided my man - you know the one I mean! me - has gotten lost in his journey to me and simply WILL NOT STOP AND ASK FOR DIRECTIONS!!!!

I'm a big fan of the Olympics (Summer and Winter). So, you can imagine I've done my fair share of watching the events of the XX Winter Olympic Games lately. It always amazes me how dedicated these Olympians are to their sport. You really have to admire someone who is willing to work so hard to become great at their talent. Time and time again, I've watched in amazement only wishing I could have been good at something. One night last week, I decided I had found the sport meant for me. Snowboard Cross made its debut at the Olympic Games, and I was in awe. That was one of the coolest events I have ever watched. After watching for a while, I announced I thought I would go into training. After carrying on for a while, I asked Dad if he would come out and watch when I began competing in the event. Without hesitation, his response was that instead of going to the venue he would go on to the nearest hospital. That way, he said, he would already be there when I arrived by ambulance! I wonder if he's trying to tell me something?!

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## Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, Feb. 13, 2006, investigated the following incidents: two for unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, one criminal mischief, one harassment, three for domestic violence, one criminal trespassing, one disorderly conduct, two for burglary, three for theft of property and one theft of services.

The following arrests were made: one for minor in possession of alcohol, one for domestic violence and one for harassment.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: ten for speeding, one for no insurance, one for no seat belt, two for running a stop sign and three for a suspended driver's license.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows: **MONDAY, FEB. 13** - Burglary of a vacant house reported at 602 Jackson St. (10:30 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 6674 County Rd. 306 (12:12 p.m.); Elba Fire Department dispatched to 305 S. Reese Ave. (12:52 p.m.); Fight in progress reported at 1297 Ann St. (1:58 p.m.).

**TUESDAY, FEB. 14** - Minor wreck reported in the parking lot of Fred's (11:23 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 19778 Hwy. 87 (3:22 p.m.).

**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 15** - Burglary reported at 1855 Hickman Ave. (9:20 p.m.); Disturbance reported on Jackson St. near Hammonds Funeral Home (10:38 p.m.).

**THURSDAY, FEB. 16** - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 605 Kendrick St. (8:19 a.m.); Possible domestic disturbance reported at Elba Villas, Apt. C-1 (3:45 p.m.).

**FRIDAY, FEB. 17** - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 81 County Rd. 418 (7:45 a.m.).

**SATURDAY, FEB. 18** - Disturbance reported at 866 Cedar Lane Dr. (7:31 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 3541 County Rd. 215 (7:03 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 3298 County Rd. 427

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## The Elba Clipper

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- ALCOHOL & DRUG RECOV. - Every Support Group - every Tuesday at 6 p.m. - Shiloh Baptist Church of Elba - Call 897-5037 for more information
- SOCIAL SECURITY REP. - Courthouse: 4th Tues. 12:30-1:30. Call FREE 1-800-772-1213
- ROTARY CLUB - Tuesday @ Noon-First First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall
- ELBA CITY COUNCIL - 2nd & 4th Monday - 6 p.m. City Hall
- WATER & ELECTRIC - Tuesday following 2nd Monday-6 p.m. - City Hall
- ELBA MINISTERIAL ASSN. - Tues. - 8 a.m. Elba United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall
- GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP - every Monday - 6:30 p.m. - Elba United Methodist Church - enter on side on W. Davis St. - Maggie Garrett Classroom
- COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION - 2nd & 4th Monday - Community Room in Farm Center Complex @ New Brockton
- LIONS CLUB - 2nd & 4th Tues. - 6:30 p.m. Senior Citizens Center
- ELBA CITY SCHOOL BOARD - 2nd Tues. - 5:30 p.m. - Supt. Office
- AMERICAN LEGION - 1st Tuesday of every month - 7:00 p.m. Legion Hall, Troy Hwy.
- MASONIC LODGE 178 - 1st & 3rd Monday of each month - 7 p.m. - 430 New Brockton @ Farm Center Complex 894-5838
- RAND BOOSTERS - 1st Mon. - 7 p.m. Band Room @ Elba High School
- VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER - Mon-Fri. 8-12 noon & 12:30 - 4:30 New Brockton @ Farm Center Complex 894-5838
- COFFEE COUNTY COON HUNTERS ASSN. - 3rd Sat. - 3 p.m. - Club House
- COFFEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN - 3rd Wed. Noon - Po Folks, Enterprise
- ELBA AIRPORT AUTHORITY - 1st Thursday at 5 PM., the FBO office at the Airport
- AARP meets every 3rd Tuesday night of the month
- ELBA ATHLETIC CLUB - 2nd & 4th Monday - 7 p.m. - Elba High boys locker room
- NEW SEASONS STUDY CLUB - Every 3rd Tuesday at 7 p.m.
- ELBA KIWANIS CLUB - 1st & 3rd Thursday - 7 a.m. - Ranch House

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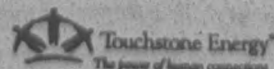
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## Obituaries

## ANNIE JO INGRAM

Mrs. Annie Jo Ingram, age 88, of Tuscaloosa, Ala., died Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2006.

She was born in Elba, Ala. on May 14, 1917 and was a long-time resident of Enterprise.

Funeral services were held Feb. 18, 2006 from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Min. Keith Ellis and Min. Tim Gummels officiating. The family encourages donations to charity.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Braxton W. Ingram; a sister, Sara Gunter; and a brother, John Young.

Survivors include a son, Robert W. Ingram, Tuscaloosa, two grandchildren: Erin Burchette, Tuscaloosa, Shea Ingram, London, England; a sister: Nell Cook, Elba, and two brothers: Ferrell Young, McMinnville, Tenn., and Fred Young, Elba.

## DEWEY I. KILCREASE

Mr. Dewey I. Kilcrease, age 77, of Brantley, Ala., died Thursday, Feb. 16, 2006 at his home in the Pine Level Community.

Funeral services were held Feb. 18, 2006 from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Rev. Don Grantham officiating. Burial followed in the Pine Level Community Cemetery with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include two sons: Mike Kilcrease, Troy, Ala.; David Kilcrease, Brantley; two daughters: Sherry Moseley,

Brantley, Pam Smith, Grand Bay, Ala.; two sisters: Dorothy Sue Cook, Brantley, Talitha Potter, Foley, Ala.; four brothers: Ray Kilcrease, Bobby Kilcrease and Clyas Kilcrease, all of Phenix City, Ala.; Reynolds Kilcrease, Headland, Ala.; four grandchildren: Steven Kilcrease, Auburn, Ala.; Adam Kilcrease, Troy, Lee Bolling and Chelsea Moseley, both of Brantley; and four great-grandchildren.

## CHESTVIT HIGHTOWER

Mrs. Chestv Hightower, age 82, died Feb. 13, 2006 at Florida Memorial Hospital after a long-term illness.

Funeral services were held Feb. 18, 2006 at First African Baptist Church of Florida with Rev. Paul Lee officiating and Coleman Funeral Home of Elba directing.

Survivors include a host of nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends.

## IDA B. SMITH

Mrs. Ida B. Smith, age 82, of Brundidge, Ala., died recently.

Funeral services were held Feb. 19, 2006 at New Jerusalem Holiness Church of Brundidge with Bishop Willie Burney officiating and Coleman Funeral Home directing.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Joanne, six brothers, and two grandchildren, Greg and Maria.

Survivors include her husband: John Smith, Brundidge; three daughters: Elice and

Evon, both of Brundidge, Oletha, Troy; two sons: Willie King, Troy, Michael, Brundidge; one sister: Clemmie Ellington; one brother: Ardesh Flowers; nine grandchildren: D.P., Eric, Rodney, Anthony, Toney, Jennifer, Kelsey, Jon, Erica; and 13 great-grandchildren.

## JAMES ARTHUR "JIM" DANFORD

Mr. James Arthur "Jim" Danford, age 74, of Elba, Ala., died Monday, Feb. 20, 2006 at Elba General Hospital.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2006 from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home with Rev. James Adcock and Rev. Earl Smith officiating. Burial followed in the New Haven Church Cemetery, Elba, with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include his wife: Annie Jo Danford, Elba, two daughters: Rhonda Green, Elba, Jamie Adams, Opp, Ala.; two sons: James A. Danford, Opp, John J. "Jody" Danford, Elba; and three grandchildren.

## JAY BARLETTE

Mr. Jay Barlette, age 20, of Kinston, Ala. (Ino Community), died Feb. 15, 2006.

He was an active member of the U.S. Army Reserves, Tuscaloosa.

Funeral services were held Feb. 18, 2006 at Ino Baptist Church with Rev. Garry Winstead and Rev. John

Freeman officiating. Burial followed in the Ino Baptist Church Cemetery with Wyatt Funeral Home directing.

The family request donations be made to the Ino Youth Fund or Ino Building Fund.

Mr. Barlette was preceded in death by his grandmothers, Nettie Wood and Marian Hawkins Barlette; and his grandfather, Thomas G. Barlette.

Survivors include his parents: T.J. and Jeanette Barlette; one brother: Brock Barlette; his grandfather: Casey Wood; his aunt and uncle: Margaret and Gary Waters; and his cousins.

## MARY EDNA HODGES

Mrs. Mary Edna Hodges, age 68, of Opp, Ala., died Sunday, Feb. 19, 2006 at Mizell Memorial Hospital in Opp.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2006 at 11 a.m. at Elba Deliverance Tabernacle Church with Rev. Allen Richards officiating. Burial followed in the Evergreen Cemetery, Elba, with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include three

daughters: Marene Pugh and Mary Lue Benson, both of Opp, Kathy Laney, Arion, Ala.; five sons: Earnest Wambles, James Norris, Danny Wambles and Robert Norris, all of Opp, John Wayne Norris, Antioch, Tenn.; one brother: Charles Roberts, Crestview, Fla.; 18 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

## SETHELO T. HAMMONDS

Mr. Sethelo T. Hammonds, age 90 of Elba, Ala., died on February 9, 2006.

Funeral services were held on February 14, 2006 at Greater New Zion MB Church in Elba

## Former Governor to speak at Troy Tuesday

Former Mississippi Gov. William F. Winter will present the inaugural Kit Carson Carter Lecture Series in Southern History and Politics at 7 p.m. Feb. 28 in the Claudia Crosby Theater at Troy University.

"For more than 50 years, Governor Winter has been on of the South's most outstanding statesmen," said Dr. Allen Dennis, professor of history and the lecture series' coordinator.

Mr. Winter was Mississippi's governor from 1980 until 1984. Prior to his election, Winter was lieutenant governor, state treasurer, state tax collector and a member of the Mississippi Legislature.

Survivors include his wife, Elma Hammonds; one son, Sethelo Jr. (Jackie) Hammonds, Montgomery, AL; seven daughters, one preceding him in death, Annie Dean (Lew) Hammonds, Montgomery, Ala.; Marion (Perry) Reynolds, Davenport, Iowa; Hazel (Lloyd) Youngblood, Montgomery, Ala.; Edwina Williams, Elba, Ala.; Peggy (Melvin) Evans, Mobile, Ala.; Gloria (Albert) Johns, Ozark, Ala.; Debra Brown, Dothan, Ala.; and thirteen grandchildren.

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FOCUSED  
FACTS

## Coup d'Etat

The government is tottering. We must deal it the death blow at any cost. To delay action is the same as death.

It was now several hours since he had written and delivered the letter containing his plea for action. By seven o'clock on the evening of November 6, 1917 (October 24 on the Julian calendar), the author was pacing the floor of his tiny apartment like a caged tiger. Would the people reading his letter really understand the urgency of acting tonight?

As the minutes passed, and he heard nothing the tension slowly built in his body. By ten o'clock, it became unbearable. He had to do something. Should he leave the apartment? If he did, would the police recognize him? If so, what would they do? Would they arrest him, or would they kill him?

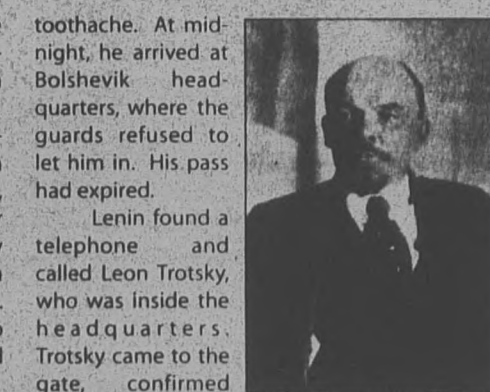
Vladimir Lenin had to know what was happening in St. Petersburg. Even though he was a wanted man, he hoped the government and the police believed he was still in Finland.

where he had fled after the coup attempt that he led four months earlier failed. Only two weeks earlier, his Bolshevik compatriots had smuggled him back into Russia to help them gain power.

They provided with a tiny, nondescript apartment on this evening, felt more like a prison cell. At a secret meeting shortly after his return, Lenin, Joseph Stalin, Leon Trotsky, and nine other Bolsheviks decided to stage a coup d'etat. They were determined to impose communist rule on Russia, even if the people didn't want communism. In November 1917, most Russians wanted only two things: they wanted food and they wanted World War I to stop.

For months, the Bolsheviks had been laying the groundwork for their coup. Every day, party members went out on the streets of St. Petersburg with a simple message. According to Nikolai Sukhanov, a Bolshevik revolutionary, they told people: "The rich have lots of everything, the poor have nothing." When the Bolsheviks assume power: "Everything will belong to the poor..." The fact they were lying didn't matter, because it worked.

Lenin put on the disguise he had used to slip back into St. Petersburg. On went the wig and glasses, but he was in too much of a rush to include the makeup, so he wrapped a scarf around his face, hoping that he looked like someone with a



Vladimir Lenin, Oct. 16, 1917. Through the Lenin Internet Archive.

Lenin found a telephone and called Leon Trotsky, who was inside the headquarters. Trotsky came to the gate, confirmed Lenin's identity, and took him inside. There, Lenin found

out his letter had already had the desired effect. Bolshevik fighters were preparing to leave for many of the city's key installations.

By two o'clock on the morning of November 7, the fighters had begun capturing key installations. During the night they seized the telegraph offices, the post offices, the railroad stations, the central bank, the power stations. They then surrounded the Winter Palace, where the President lived. They never even fired a shot. There were no soldiers left to guard the city.

Early the next morning Lenin announced the coup d'etat. The response was a giant yawn. Banks and businesses were open, public transportation continued, and all the city's factories were running. But Russia was now a communist country. Find out more about the communist takeover. Take The Web Journey.

Next Week:  
From Revolutionary to Dictator

## THE WEB JOURNEY

**The Soviet Archives Exhibit**  
This Library of Congress exhibition includes numerous primary source documents from the early years of the Soviet Union. Beginning with the 1917 revolution, the material provides insight into the workings of the Soviet system and its domination of the Russian people. The first half of the exhibit details the repression and accompanying terror tactics used to stifle any dissent, while the second provides details of the country's relations with the United States.

Web Address: <http://tinyurl.com/bars3>

**The Bolshevik Coup d'Etat of November 1917**

This collection of diplomatic cables, written by American foreign service officers stationed in St. Petersburg, Moscow and Stockholm, offers a first hand view of the unfolding events in Russia. It is part of the Avalon Project at the Yale University Law School.

Web Address: <http://tinyurl.com/tftuf>

**The History of Russia**

This online textbook traces the evolution of Russian society from its earliest roots to the modern day. This resource is a part of History World, a narrative encyclopedia being written under the direction of Bamber Gascoigne, a British academic, author, and documentary filmmaker.

Web Address: <http://tinyurl.com/dq7rx>

We thank our partners for their commitment to our community, our schools, and our young people. Together, we ensure teachers and students receive all learning materials at no cost to them.

E-mail your questions or comments to [editor@elbaclipper.com](mailto:editor@elbaclipper.com)



1945, they raised an American flag on the top of a hill on an island they had just captured. Navy photographer Joe Rosenthal snapped a photograph that became the most famous of all World War II photographs. On what island did the Marines raise the American flag? Do you want to find the answer, or read John Bradley's account of that day's events? Go to <http://tinyurl.com/dt1st>

## BEYOND OUR BORDERS



The Great Barrier Reef. Through the National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Australia's Great Barrier Reef, which extends for more than 1,500 miles off the country's north-east coast, is one of the seven natural wonders of the world. It is also home to more

than 1,500 species of fish, 200 birds, and over 600 islands. The first European to discover it was Captain James Cook when his ship the Endeavour ran aground on it in 1770. Today, it is a protected World Heritage Site. Unfortunately, continued global warming may damage its coral. Find out more about this world treasure at <http://tinyurl.com/c15rm>







# SCHOOLS

## Co-Op Spotlight

by Christina Bryant



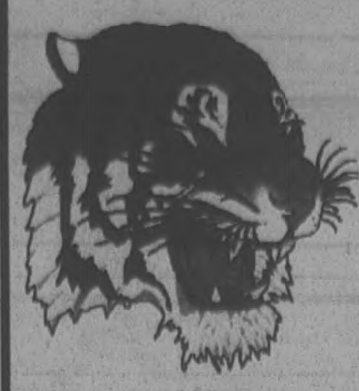
This week's Co-Op Spotlight is Richard Deavane Barlow. Richard is the 19-year-old son of Ricky Barlow and Linda Faye Baldwin. He is currently a senior at Elba High School where he is involved in many different activities.

Richard is employed by Jared & Brunson Attorney's at Law and has been working there for about six months. In his spare time he enjoys spending time with friends and family and traveling to new places.

After graduation, Richard plans to attend a college of his choice and then later work for the Woodmen of the World Insurance Company.

Congratulations, Richard, for being this week's Co-Op Spotlight!

## SUPPORT THE ELBA TIGERS' SPORTS PROGRAM!



## Tiger Tales

Editors:  
Shawanna Wright  
& Melanie Mularz

## Three career tech programs complete certification reviews

by Ashton Rodriguez

The month of January was a busy one for the Elba High School Career Tech Department.

Three programs, Family and Consumer Science, Agriculture and Construction and Cooperative Education all underwent rigorous certification reviews.

Business Industry Certification, referred to as BIC, evaluates programs to ensure all career tech programs are meeting business and industry standards; marginal programs do not survive.

## Elba Elementary School Menu

February 27 - March 3, 2006

BREAKFAST	LUNCH
<b>Monday</b> - Cheese Sandwich, Cereal, Juice, Milk	<b>Monday</b> - Beef Stroganoff, English Peas, Corn on Cob, Roll, Applesauce, Milk
<b>Tuesday</b> - Pancakes/Syrup, Link Sausage, Cereal, Juice, Milk	<b>Tuesday</b> - Barbecue Pork, Rice, Baked Beans, Bread, 1/2 Orange, Milk
<b>Wednesday</b> - Biscuit & Jelly, Sausage, Patty, Cereal, Juice, Milk	<b>Wednesday</b> - Chicken Nuggles, Potato Salad, Green Beans, Roll, Mixed Fruit, Milk
<b>Thursday</b> (Dr. Seuss' Birthday) - Green Eggs, Ham, Toast & Jelly, Cereal, Juice, Milk	<b>Thursday</b> - Cheeseburger, Oven Fries, Lettuce, Tomato, Dill Pickles, Birthday Cake, Milk
<b>Friday</b> - Cheese Grits, Toast & Jelly, Cereal, Juice, Milk	<b>Friday</b> - Cornedog, Macaroni & Cheese, Turnips, 1/2 Apple, Combread, Milk

## CCYLP students tour Fort Rucker

by Melanie Mularz

This past Wednesday five Elba High students toured Fort Rucker as the Coffee County Youth Leadership Program took over 20 students from the county to Fort Rucker.

"The trip was very educational, and I learned many things about the army and what it can do for me," stated Clara Burrows.

The students went to Fort Rucker in the morning and were able to play on many different simulators. Also, they got to see what looking through night vision goggles was like.

For lunch they went to the very nice Officer's Club, and during the afternoon, the students toured Warrior Hall in Daleville and got to see the many different training simulators that are built there.

The trip was very exciting and



The students got to experience flying via simulators.

useful. The group toured many different places in the surrounding area.

The final trip is on March 9th and will be to Montgomery.

## EES welcomes physical education intern

by Clara Burrows

We are proud to welcome Nathan Rainey to EES. He is an intern in physical education under Coach John Johnson at Elba Elementary School.

In addition to teaching at EES, he is a volunteer Assistant Baseball Coach.

Coach Rainey is married to Sarah Rainey. He attended Troy University and majored in physical education.

Alabama got a big round of praise from U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings, who singled out the state's efforts to raise math and science standards, said Sen. Jeff Sessions.

Spellings made her comments at a hearing before the Senate Health and Education Committee.

Spellings said she held a parent roundtable discussion in

## FCCLA selling Relay for Life quilt squares

by Tierney Starks

The Elba High School FCCLA is still selling Relay For Life quilt squares.

The quilt will consist of 5-inch squares combined to make a party hat design. All squares will be \$5 and will be monogrammed with "In Memory Of/Honor Of" remembrance blocks.

Please contact Mrs. Whitlock at EHS (334-897-2266) if you would like to purchase a square.

## Sections lauds education secretary for singling out math and science programs

Birmingham, and participants told her that educators need to help students see why math and science are relevant to their lives.

There was one teacher in Birmingham, she said, "who had the problem solved."

Her students were comparing hair strands under a microscope as part of a mock crime investigation," Spellings said.

"It was CSI:Birmingham, and I

didn't see any students looking at the clock or asking why they had to learn math and science."

Said Spellings: "Math is becoming essential in fields ranging from advertising to consulting to media to policymaking."

Just one state - Alabama - requires students to take four years of math and science in high school."

Spellings noted the Alabama Reading Initiative (ARI) has been nationally recognized and

Massachusetts are using it as a model for their own initiatives.

"ARI has shown great success, and now I expect the Alabama Math, Science and Technology Initiative (AMSTI) to do the same," he said.

The reason these programs work so well is that they go beyond telling teachers to do better, and they actually equip teachers with the skills, knowledge and materials to teach successfully.

We need to support the teachers we have and do a better job of training them to meet the goals that have been set for them in No Child Left Behind."

Sessions said Alabama is stepping ahead with programs in math and science that are gaining national attention.

The AMSTI is consistent with President Bush's new global competitiveness initiative.

"It is essential that America's students receive the high quality education they need to be competitive in today's world," Sessions said.

"I applaud those Alabama education administrators, teachers, parents and students who are working hard to go beyond the status quo to achieve the highest possible levels of success."

## EHS Journalism staff plans to sell seat cushions

by Stephanie Corder

The 2005-2006 Journalism Staff is planning to sell seat cushions.

Ads will be sold and placed on the back of the cushion. Each ad is a business card size and can be purchased for \$40.

If you are interested in buying a seat cushion ad, please call 897-2266 and ask for either Mrs. Wanda Bucklew or Stephanie Corder. Donations are welcomed.

# SCHOOLS



8th grader Nicole Napper recently went to Montgomery, Ala., to be a senate page for Senator Jimmy Holley of Elba. For three days, she was stationed at the Alabama State House in Montgomery, next to the Capital. Her job included running errands and attending meetings of the Alabama senators. When asked what her favorite part of the experience was, Nicole said, "The best part was getting to shake hands with all of those important people."

Nicole hopes to get the honor and privilege of going again next year.

## Upcoming Events With FFA

• FFA Week February 20-24, 2006  
Monday Feb. 20: No School  
Tuesday Feb. 21: ATV Safety  
Wednesday Feb. 22: Petting Zoo  
Thursday Feb. 23: Meeting  
Friday Feb. 24: County Contest in New Brighton

• County Practice is every Tuesday and Thursday!

• Battlebats practice is also every Tuesday and Thursday!

• District Competition April 23, 2006 at LBW.

• Battle Bots Competition April 26-30 in Miami, Florida.

## REBEL BAND NEWS:

• The Zion Chapel Concert band competed in the District-8 Festival Thursday, Feb. 16, at Troy University. The band earned all 1's at district. This qualifies the concert band to compete at the state festival to be held Wednesday, March 15.

• The Rebel Band will be traveling to Atlanta, Ga. on May 6th to participate in the "Music in the Parks" National Festival held at Six Flags Over Georgia.

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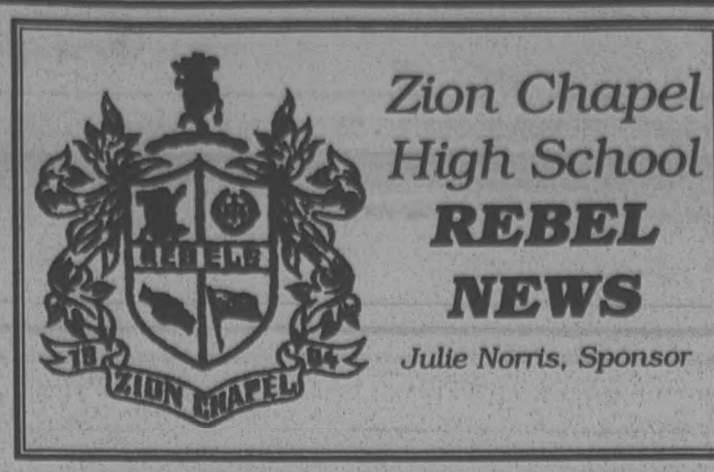
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Zion Chapel High School  
**REBEL NEWS**  
Julie Norris, Sponsor



STUDENTS SELECTED FOR DISTRICT AND ALL-STATE BANDS. Four students were selected to the second highest honor band in the state, the District 8 Honor Band. These students were selected for the District 8 Honor Band through a process of scales, prepared studies and sight reading. They will be traveling to Troy University on March 3rd to participate. Melanie Perry was selected to the All-State Band which is the highest Honor Band in the state. The honor band students include (from left to right) Drew Little, Donna Flowers, Tracie Long, Melanie Perry and Dillon Davis.

Altrusa holds third annual Teacher Appreciation Banquet

Altrusa International Inc. of Jack held its Third Annual Teacher Appreciation Banquet Thursday, Feb. 16, in the auditorium of Zion Chapel High School.

With over 50 teachers in attendance, organization president Shannon Boswell commended the assembly for the largest turnout since the program began and thanked the teachers for "their dedication to the students and for insuring that our children receive a quality education."

Each teacher that attended received items from their "wish list" (items needed for their classroom) supplied by the Altrusa members.

Assembly and their guests paid \$5 for their meals, a delicious barbecue buffet catered by The Ranch House in Elba, which was then donated to the library to purchase books and supplies.

Altrusa recognized the participants of the Walk-A-Thon and Canned Food Drive before acknowledging the teachers for their years of service at Zion Chapel School and those who were alumni of Zion Chapel.

Circuit Judge Jeff Kelley, a graduate of Zion Chapel High School, was guest speaker for the event. He spoke about the importance of a quality education and how important it is for the teachers, administration, parents, and community to work together.

"This school is the heart and soul of this community and it is teachers like you that make it successful," said Kelley. "I challenge each teacher, parent, administrator and person in this community to join together to make excellence in education a priority in this community. Be good examples of honest, moral people because you are in charge of our children's future."

"I appreciated the honor of being your 2005 Teacher of the Year," said Melinda Hodge as she spoke to the crowd about the importance of continuing to provide a quality education to the students in the Jack community. "It was a very humbling experience."

The highlight of the evening

Announcements for Zion Chapel Schools:

• Jr. Beta Club Induction Ceremony - Feb. 24 at 1:30 p.m.  
• Cheerleader Tryouts - Feb. 24 after 3:30 p.m.  
• Deadline for Miss Zion Chapel pageant applications - Feb. 27  
• Book Fair - Feb. 27-March 2  
• Dr. Seuss' Birthday Celebration - March 2  
• Senior Beta Club Induction Ceremony - March 2 at 1:30

• Nine Weeks Exams: Grades 10-12 - March 1-3; Grades 7-9 March 8-10  
• Miss Zion Chapel Tea - March 4  
• Astra Charter Ceremony - March 6 at 6:30  
• Powder Puff Football Game - March 10 during 7th period  
• Spring Intercession - March 13-24

• Cobb asked the group if reading was important.  
• "Do you guys read?" he asked.  
• "We read all day and all night," was Justin Herbert's reply.

Teachers asked the students what they liked best about the presentations for career day.

"I liked all of it because it was awesome," replied Dalton Cochran.

The Career Day program was presented in cooperation with the Alabama Reading and Math Initiative.

First grader Tristan Howard told the officers, "When people

are going fast, y'all catch 'em." Student Blake Cobb said, "You arrest people."

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## A unique pair of third graders

Friends give rather than receive for their birthday

Ethan Deal and Macy McIntosh are a pair of unique third graders at Zion Chapel Elementary School. The two students are best friends and they will celebrate their ninth birthday together.

Ethan and Macy talked their parents into having a combined birthday party at Fun Factory in Enterprise, and the pair came up with a special idea for their party.

They did not want anyone to bring gifts to their party. This seems like quite an unusual request for third graders! They told their parents that instead of receiving gifts for themselves they wanted to ask their friends and families to bring a donation which they would give to the Austin Smith Scholarship Fund at Enterprise-Ozark Community College.

Their parents were amazed at the "grown-up" decision the two had made.

Austin, a 2005 graduate of ZCHS, was taken from us last August in a tragic automobile accident. Austin is the late son of Alan and Lisa Smith and also left behind a brother, Josh, and a sister, Clara.

Austin, as well as Josh, was a superior athlete at Zion Chapel. They each excelled in football, basketball and baseball.

Ethan has always admired the skills each of them exhibited on the playing field. Macy and Ethan were fortunate to have had Mrs. Lisa Smith as their first grade teacher and she instilled many values in the youngsters.

The youngsters see this family as a role model for others. They are dedicated to their family, Zion Chapel School, and their church. If there is an event going on at Zion Chapel, the Smith family is present.

The loss of Austin was felt by everyone, young and old alike, in the Jack community. The children wanted to honor Austin, as well as the Smith family, with a contribution to Austin's memorial scholarship fund.

Mrs. Lisa Smith and Josh Smith along with many other friends and family members came out to help the two celebrate at the Fun Factory. The children were proud to let Mrs. Smith and Josh know they had collected \$400 for Austin's scholarship fund.

Ethan and Macy thanked everyone who came out and contributed to their success.

Ethan and Macy are students in Mrs. Kristy Jones' third grade class at Zion Chapel Elementary. Ethan is the son of Wayne & Felicity Jackson & Derrick & Kayla Deal. Macy is the daughter of Scott & Stephanie McIntosh.

Jackie Jinright (left) receives the Teacher of the Year award from Angie Dillard.

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Instead of receiving gifts for their ninth birthday, Ethan Deal (left) and Macy McIntosh (right) asked their friends to bring a donation for the Austin Smith Scholarship fund at Enterprise-Ozark Community College to their joint birthday party held recently. Through this selfless act, the two youngsters were able to raise \$400 for the scholarship fund. They are shown above with Smith's mother, Lisa, and brother, Josh.

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With over 50 teachers in attendance, organization president Shannon Boswell commended the assembly for the largest turnout since the program began and thanked the teachers for "their dedication to the students and for insuring that our children receive a quality education."

Each teacher that attended received items from their "wish list" (items needed for their classroom) supplied by the Altrusa members.

Assembly and their guests paid \$5 for their meals, a delicious barbecue buffet catered by The Ranch House in Elba, which was then donated to the library to purchase books and supplies.

Altrusa recognized the participants of the Walk-A-Thon and Canned Food Drive before acknowledging the teachers for their years of service at Zion Chapel School and those who were alumni of Zion Chapel.

Circuit Judge Jeff Kelley, a graduate of Zion Chapel High School, was guest speaker for the event. He spoke about the importance of a quality education and how important it is for the teachers, administration, parents, and community to work together.

"This school is the heart and soul of this community and it is teachers like you that make it successful," said Kelley. "I challenge each teacher, parent, administrator and person in this community to join together to make excellence in education a priority in this community. Be good examples of honest, moral people because you are in charge of our children's future."

"I appreciated the honor of being your 2005 Teacher of the Year," said Melinda Hodge as she spoke to the crowd about the importance of continuing to provide a quality education to the students in the Jack community. "It was a very humbling experience."

The highlight of the evening

Announcements for Zion Chapel Schools:

• Jr. Beta Club Induction Ceremony



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# SPORTS

Views from....

## The Pressbox

By Ricky Mulatz, Sports Editor

I think Valentine's Day was more fun back when we were in elementary school and we all swapped with each other! Valentine's Day was last week and that meant Dad had to find a florist at the last minute to make certain the wife and daughters got a balloon and a stuffed animal. They all got their gifts and a card, but once again, all I got was the bill after the gifts had been delivered. Oh well, at my age I guess I'm just too old to be anybody's Valentine.

### ONCE OVER LIGHTLY...

\*\*\* The Elba Tigers saw their season end last week with two straight losses that left the Tigers with a final record of 18-9. The Tigers fell in the area finals to Luverne early in the week, then on Friday night traveled up to Lanett and came out on the short-end of a lopsided 98-65 decision in a sub-region final. Elba began the season back in November with a roster that included 14 seniors, and many Tiger fans were convinced this would be the year the Tigers made a run at a state title. Elba did win 18 games and made a run at the state rankings, but along the way saw a couple of players quit the team, a couple more kicked off for playing in a church tournament and by the time the tournament rolled around the original roster was down to just seven varsity players. That number left the Tigers a little too thin in places and it showed in the final two games as Elba saw its hopes come crashing down. I'm sure first year coach Glen Johnson was excited to have a team filled with seniors when he took over, but with all the problems during the season I'm pretty sure he will be even happier next season when he fields a new team with players he had the chance to work with this season on the junior varsity level.

\*\*\* The Brantley Bulldogs struggled late in the season after the resignation of long time coach Tony Stallworth, but put it all back together last week and posted wins in the area finals and at sub-region to punch their ticket to this week's Southeast Regional at Troy University. The Bulldogs have a good mixture of size and outside shooting, and last week used both to claim the two big wins. Brantley won't be favored to make it out of the region and on to state. However, the Bulldogs proved late in the season they still knew how to win, and don't be surprised if they have a few more upsets planned before they hang up their sneakers.

\*\*\* The Elba Recreation Department will send five all-star teams to district tournaments this weekend, and while many will judge their success by games won, the boys and girls are already winners and there is no doubt they will represent the department and the City of Elba well. Three boys teams and two girls teams will take the court for competition, and the pressure on the youngsters will be enormous as they compete in high school gyms with big crowds in the bleachers. Since the Elba All-Stars will compete against teams from such cities as Troy, Enterprise, Greenville and Andalusia, there is little doubt the Elba teams won't be considered teams to beat. However, the Elba players know how to play the game and it won't surprise me if they pull off an upset or two along the way. Good luck, and go get 'em.

\*\*\* The youth baseball season won't start until early April, but the season is already off to a fast start here in Elba since Elba has already been awarded the District Tournament in Dixie Youth Baseball and the Sub-District Tournaments for both 13 and 14-year olds in Dixie Boys Baseball. The post-season tournaments will be held in late June and mid-July at Legion Field, and that means a little extra care will go into the fields as the season rolls along. Ball season never ends for the Recreation Department, only the size of the ball changes.

\*\*\* In closing... youth baseball and softball registration is underway in Elba and that means youngsters ages 4-18 will soon get the chance to take the field and play ball. The number of children in Elba has gone down in recent years due to plant closures and floods, but maybe this year will be the year the leagues bounce back and all the youngsters come out and have fun.

**Youth Baseball & Softball Registration now underway in Elba for boys and girls ages 4-18.... Sign up today and JOIN THE FUN!!**

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### Fall to Luverne

## Elba Tigers upset in area finals 61-53

The Elba Tigers saw their hopes of adding the area tournament title to their regular season crown fall one win short last week as they lost to Luverne 61-53, on Monday night at the Elba High gym.

The loss dropped Elba's record to 18-7, while Luverne improved its record to 16-8 with the win.

Luverne came out ready to play and jumped out to a 9-4 lead early in the opening stanza, only to see Elba rally and pull within 9-7 on a three-pointer by LaRay Williams with 4:06 left in the quarter. Williams basket proved to be the Tigers' final points of the quarter; however, and by the end of the quarter Luverne was back in command with a 16-7 advantage.

Williams sparked the Tigers early in the second quarter and scored five points to help Elba cut the Luverne lead to 16-14 with 6:39 left in the half. Luverne answered the Elba rally with an 8-2 run to pull out to a 24-16 lead with 4:38 remaining, only to see the Tigers rally again and pull within 26-25 with 2:07 left on the clock on a long three-pointer by Mason Gully. Elba had a chance to grab the lead on its next trip down the court, but missed the front-end of a one-and-one free-throw opportunity and watched as Luverne scored late to carry a 30-25 lead in at intermission.

A three-pointer by Brandon Kelley and a short jumper by Andrew Stoudemire helped the

Tigers pull even at 30-30 with 6:02 remaining in the third quarter, and Elba moved on top only a minute later when Stoudemire scored from inside to put the Tigers ahead 34-32 with 4:54 left on the clock. Shawn Abbott and Mason Gully sparked a 6-0 Elba run late in the quarter as the Tigers moved ahead 42-35, but Luverne staged the final rally of the stanza and at the end of the quarter Elba's lead was down to 42-41.

Luverne scored the first five points of the fourth quarter to regain the lead and opened up a 46-42 advantage, only to see Elba's Reymar Rodgers scored on a short hook with 5:38 remaining to pull the Tigers within 46-44. Luverne outscored the Tigers 9-2 over the next two minutes to take a 53-46 lead with 3:16 remaining in the game, and turned back Elba's final rally to hold on and take the title with a 61-53 win.

LaRay Williams scored 15 points and pulled down 10 rebounds to lead Elba, while Brandon Kelley added 12 points. Fred Hawkins led Luverne with 20 points.

L 16 14 11 20 - 61  
E 7 18 17 11 - 53

Luverne (61): McCreary 2, Hawkins 20, Harris 12, Medley 5, Dixon 2, Jones 4, Lowery 10, Jackson 6.

Elba (53): Gully 9, Williams 15, Kelley 12, Abbott 8, Rodgers 2, Stoudemire 6.

### Elba's season ends in 98-65 sub-region setback to Lanett

The Elba Tigers saw their season come to an abrupt end Friday night when they were outscored by the Lanett Panthers 98-65, in a Class 2A sub-region final, at Lanett.

The Tigers held their own with the third-ranked Panthers in the opening stanza and trailed only 20-17, but Lanett began to take command in the second

quarter and sparked by the hot shooting of Deontra Marbury and Antwon Ramsey opened up a 45-29 lead by the end of the half. Marbury and Ramsey combined for 34 points in the half to lead the Lanett charge, and the Panthers remained in command in the third quarter and then pulled away in the final stanza as they posted the lopsided win.

### Lady Tiger rally falls short in 45-31 sub-region setback

The Elba Lady Tigers hosted the Lanett Lady Panthers Thursday night in a Class 2A sub-region final and held their own for three quarters before watching as Lanett pulled away late and left with a 45-31 win.

The loss left Elba with a final record of 10-12, while Lanett upped its record to 12-13 with the win and earned a berth in this week's region tournament.

Elba jumped out to an early 2-0 lead on a basket by Whitney Lawford, but the Lady Tigers didn't score again for over three minutes and watched as Lanett pulled out to an 8-2 lead with 2:16 remaining in the first quarter. Brandy Caldwell scored on a put back with 1:40 remaining to pull Elba within 10-6. However, the Lady Panthers regained command late and by the end of the stanza owned a big 15-6 advantage.

Lanett picked up where it had left off as the second quarter opened and went on a 6-0 run to stretch its lead to 22-6 with 5:32 left in the stanza. A jumper by LaFondra Thigpen and two late baskets by Lawford sparked a late Lady Tiger rally, but Lanett remained in command and at the half went in with a 25-13 lead.

Elba (31): Thigpen 6, Henderson 9, Lawford 7, Carney 3, Caldwell 6.

were ready to blow the game open. However, a basket by Janice Carney sparked an 8-0 Elba run that pulled the Lady Tigers within 27-21 with 2:56 remaining in the quarter. Lanett pulled ahead 31-22 with 1:32 left, but Elba again rallied and when Leanna Henderson connected on two free-throws late in the period the Lady Tigers were within 31-27.

Brandy Caldwell scored from inside early in the final stanza to pull Elba within 31-29. However, the Lady Tigers scored only two points the remainder of the quarter and Lanett took advantage of Elba's scoring woes to regain command as the Lady Panthers pulled away and claimed the 45-31 win.

Leanna Henderson scored 9 points and Whitney Lawford added 7 to lead Elba, while S. Dawson and Thomas both scored 10 points to lead Lanett.

L 15 12 14 14 - 45  
E 6 12 9 4 - 31

Lanett (45): Caldwell 6, S. Dawson 10, Jones 2, Dawson 5, Thomas 10, Eldridge 9, Hicks 2, Dawson 1.

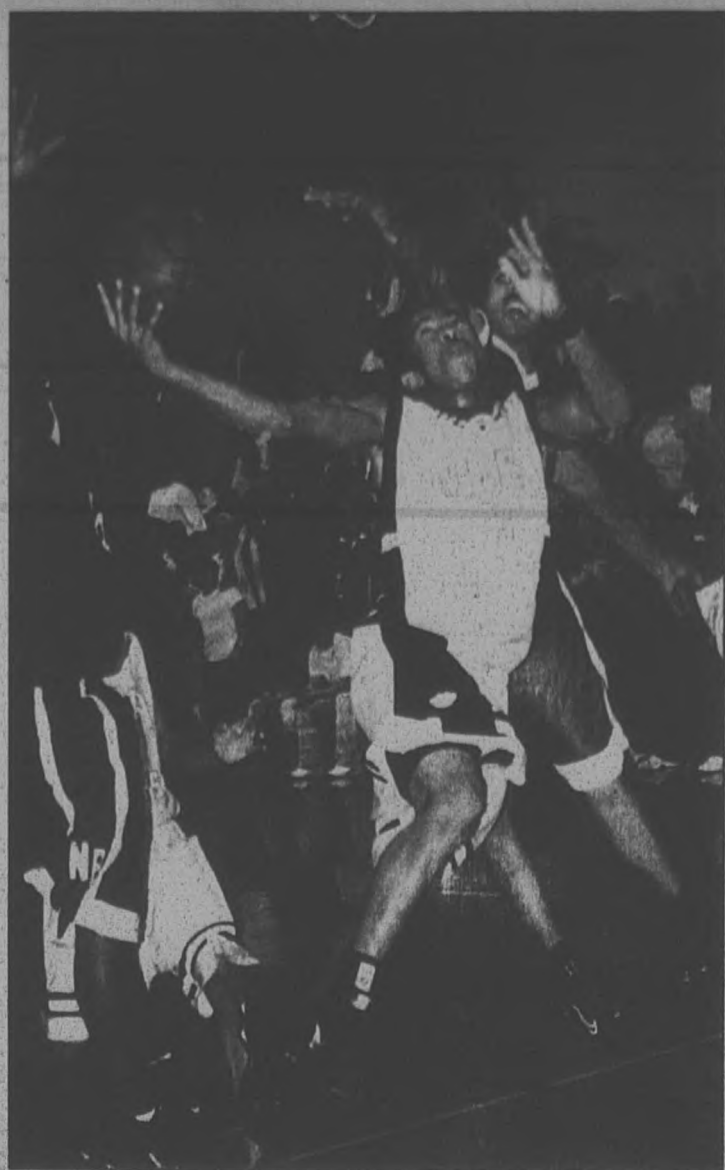
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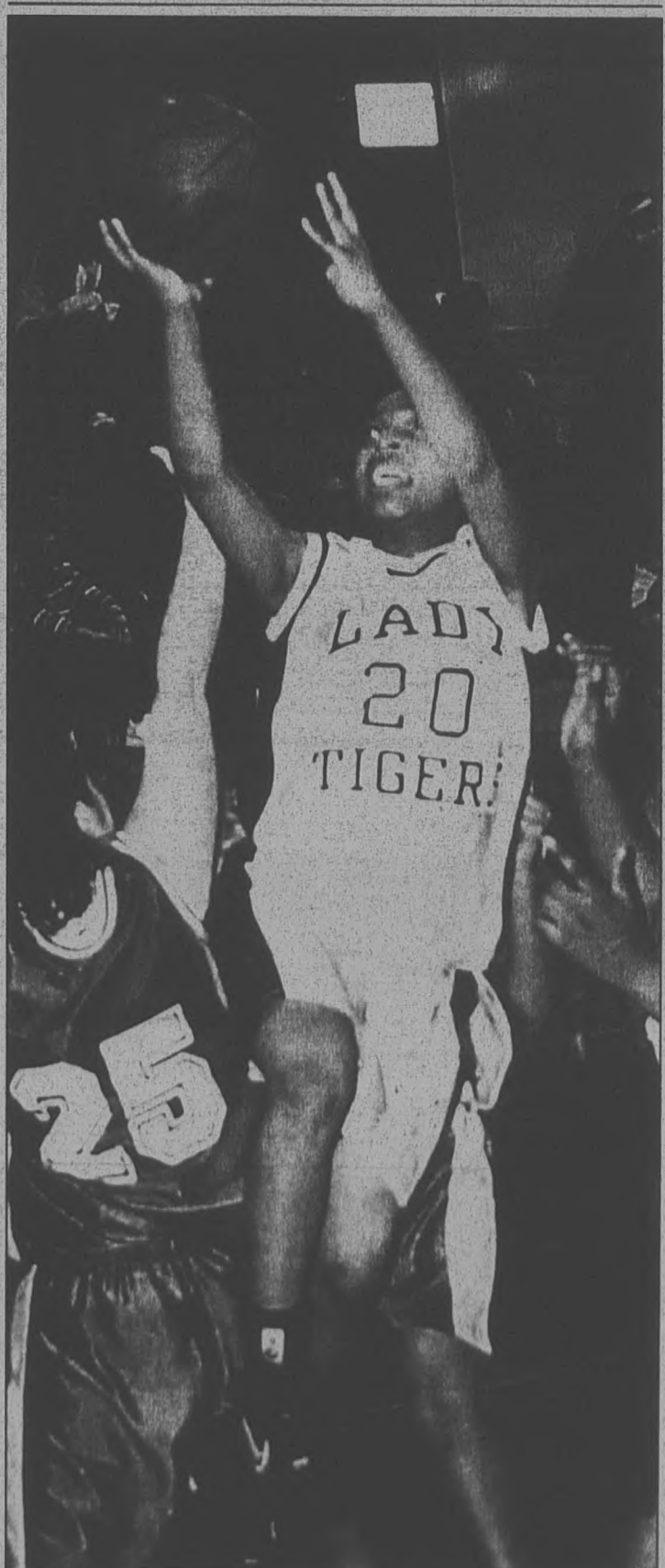
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OUCH! Elba's Mason Gully (3) is fouled as he drives to the basket during recent high school basketball action. The Tigers ended the season with an 18-9 record last week with losses in the area finals and sub-region finals.

(Photo by Laura Basley)



Elba Lady Tiger LaFondra Thigpen (20) drives to the basket for an easy two-pointer in recent high school basketball action. The Lady Tigers saw their season end last week with a sub-region loss at home against Lanett.

(Photo by Laura Basley)

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# SPORTS

## All-Stars named for this week's ARPA District tournaments

The Elba Department of Parks and Recreation has announced its "All-Star" teams that will compete this weekend at the Alabama Recreation and Parks Association District Basketball Tournaments.

The single-elimination tournaments will be held on Friday, Feb. 24, and Saturday, Feb. 25, at sites across the district.

The All-Star teams are as follows:

### BOYS 8 AND UNDER

At Andalusia  
Griffin Martin, Cavoessa Stinson, Bradley Weeks, Denzell Thomas, Michael Martavious Gray, Bronson Cooks, Chance Johnson, Jeffery Perdue, Miguel Banks, Caleb Martin. Coaches: Rob Stinson, Rico Hill, Tommy Perdue.

### BOYS 10 AND UNDER

At Elba High School  
Harry Griffin, Nick Green, Matthew Marler, Nathan Miller, J.T. Austin, Raheem Newsom, Kysen Edwards, Cobe Goosby, Reid Riels, Jaclyn Newsom. Coaches: Paula Moreau, Roger

Miller, Doug Martin.

### BOYS 12 AND UNDER

At Elba High School  
KeAnthony Newsom, Tyler Anderson, Waylon Craighead, Austin Johnson, Thomas Cole, Donie Rodgers, Jeffery Wright, Olajuwain Heinz, Myke Boyd, Devin Davis. Coaches: Timothy Williams, Paula Moreau.

### GIRLS 10 AND UNDER

At Greenville  
Paige Dewberry, Shae Sams, Jada McKenzie, Ty Carpenter, A.J. Whitfield, Reality Singletary, Makayla Shaw, Makiyah Lane, Allyshia Hinton, Asia Edwards, Olivia Hands. Coaches: Toni Dewberry, Nick Whitfield.

### GIRLS 12 AND UNDER

At Greenville  
Jacquetta Whitfield, Karizmah Yelverton, Trey Craighead, Kei-Auna Edwards, Kimberly Perdue, Belinda Jones-Pitts, Lasajidah Edwards, Kayla Bagwell, Amelia Petry, Alexis Clark. Coaches: Tommy Perdue, Nick Whitfield.



Brantley's Thad Frazier (3) lays in an easy two-pointer during a recent Bulldog win. The Bulldogs won the area tournament and sub-region finals last week to advance to this week's Southeast Regional, at Troy University.

(Photo by Laura Basley)

## Brantley claims two exciting wins to advance to regional

The Brantley Bulldogs turned into the "Cardiac Kids" last week as they claimed two exciting wins to advance to this week's Southeast Regional Tournament, at Troy University.

The Bulldogs began the week's excitement last Monday night in Goshen when they survived a late Goshen rally to slip past the Eagles 76-75, to take home the Class 1A, Area 4 tournament title. Brantley owned a 76-75 lead with only 7-seconds left in the game with Goshen at the free-throw line. The Eagles missed the second of a one-and-one opportunity to catch the Bulldogs, but grabbed the missed shot, only to see a put back attempt roll off the rim. Goshen had one final chance after Brantley was whistled for traveling, but failed to cash in and

the Bulldogs escaped with the wild 76-75 win.

Thad Frazier scored 25 points to advance to this week's Southeast Regional, while Janorris Cogburn led the Eagles with 20 points.

Brantley hosted Notasulga Friday night in a 2A sub-region final and converted two late free-throws to claim an exciting 70-68 win. Kevin Pitts hit one free-throw with 7-seconds left on the clock to give the Bulldogs a 69-68 lead, while Thad Frazier added a last-second toss from the line to give Brantley the 70-68 victory.

Kevin Pitts scored 27 points and pulled down 10 rebounds to lead Brantley, while Thad Frazier added 22 points and Rashad Smiley scored 11.

### Youth baseball and softball registration is now underway in New Brockton

Anyone interested in playing baseball or softball with the city of New Brockton needs to register at this time. Forms can be

picked up at New Brockton Elementary School 894-6152. Registration fee is \$20. Deadline to register is Friday, Feb. 17th.

- New Construction Survey
- Mortgage Survey
- Land Line Survey



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### SUPPORT THE ELBA ALL-STARS THIS WEEKEND AT THE ARPA DISTRICT BASKETBALL TOURNAMENTS!

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# COMMUNITY NEWS



COFFEE COUNTY SPONSORED THE ANNUAL LAW ENFORCEMENT BANQUET on February 16, 2006. The banquet was hosted by County Line Baptist Church in Enterprise. The banquet gives Baptist folks in the county an opportunity to say "Thank You" to the law enforcement in our area. Photo left to right: Chief Freddy Hanchey, Elba Police Dept.; Sheriff Ben Moates, Coffee Co. Sheriff Dept.; Warden Lillie Foster, Elba Work Release; Chief T.D. Jones, Enterprise Police Dept.; Glenn Furukawa, Alabama State Troopers; and Sgt. Lance Tindol, Coffee County Sheriff's Dept.

## Alabama's nongame wildlife needs help

More than 900 species of wildlife in Alabama are classified as "nongame."

The Nongame Wildlife Program, administered by the Department of Conservation's Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division, is responsible for monitoring Alabama's nongame. These are species like bluebirds, woodpeckers and robins that you see every day in your back yard. Some nongame species that were threatened or endangered due to loss of habitat and low populations have made fantastic recoveries, such as bald eagles and ospreys.

Many are surprised to learn that the Nongame Wildlife Program does not receive state tax dollars. It is partially funded by the citizens of Alabama through tax-deductible donations. In addition to donations, federal funds such as the Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (P-R Act) are also used. The P-R Act is an excise tax on sporting firearms, ammunition, archery and other outdoor equipment that is earmarked for wildlife restoration and management. Therefore, the hunters of this state provide the primary source of funding for Alabama's Nongame Wildlife Program.

In 1982, the Alabama Legislature enacted a law providing for the Alabama Nongame Wildlife Fund check-off box on the state income tax form. This provides concerned citizens a way to donate all or a

portion of their state tax refunds for the benefit of nongame wildlife. These donations are matched on a three-to-one federal cost share. This means that for every \$1 donated, the state receives \$3 in federal matching funds. A \$5 donation means \$20 for nongame wildlife conservation. A \$100 donation means \$400.

Donations and money from the checkoff system, along with P-R money, helped fund the successful Bald Eagle Restoration Project and the Bluebird Restoration Project in the early days of the Nongame Wildlife Program. Today, the bald eagle and bluebird populations have increased to substantial numbers and sightings of these once rare birds are now common in many parts of the state.

If you use a tax accountant or preparer, ask them to check the box for the Alabama Nongame Wildlife Fund. If you do not receive a state income tax refund, consider making a direct donation. Send your check to the Nongame Wildlife Program, Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries, 64 North Union Street, Montgomery, AL 36130.

This year, give something back to wildlife. For more information contact the Nongame Wildlife Program, Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries, 64 North Union Street, Montgomery, AL 36130; 334-242-3469; or visit [www.outdooralabama.com](http://www.outdooralabama.com).

## CASEY

(Continued from Page One)

really missed her family and friends.

"Everybody missed me," she said jokingly. "I got some long letters."

Through it all, though, the hard work, preparation and time away from home paid off for Medlock when she was named the Overall Academics Preliminary winner during the scholarship program. The honor translated to an additional \$4,000 in scholarship funds added to the \$4,000 in cash tuition scholarships she received last August when she was named Coffee County Junior Miss.

"I enjoyed representing Coffee County in the 2006 Alabama Junior Miss Program," said Medlock. "I thank everyone, especially my family and friends, for their support."

Casey Medlock is the daughter of Pete and Eva Medlock and a senior at Elba High School.

## DUTY

(Continued from Page One)

the department and city has welcomed him back.

"I'm looking forward to getting to know everyone again," he said. "I hope to be fair but strict and do the best job I can."

Officer Stanley had been with the Elba Police Department approximately seven months before he was activated in 2004. Before that, he had been with the department for an approximate five month stint before he was activated for his first tour of duty.

Hanchey said Officer Stanley currently will be working second shift, but there may be times when he will work other shifts as needed.

Officer Stanley and his family reside in Elba.

## ATTENTION PEOPLE WITH DIABETES!

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### Note Of Thanks

Thanks so much for your many expressions of love and kindness after our accident and during our surgeries and hospital stays.

Your support has been genuinely appreciated and a comfort for us.

**Chuck, Christy,  
Jordan & Brinley**





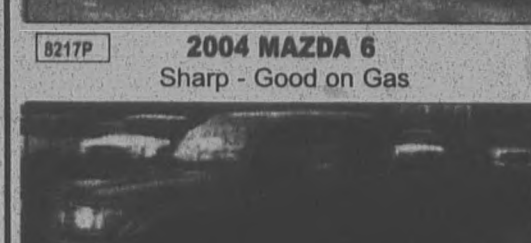
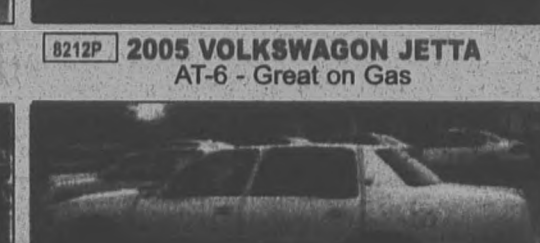
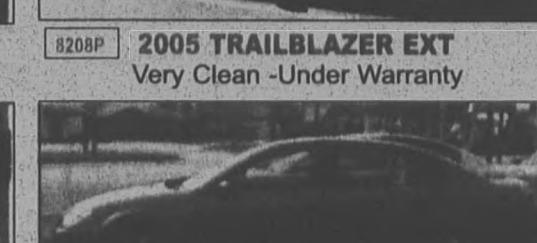
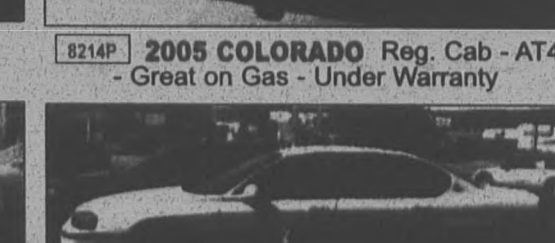
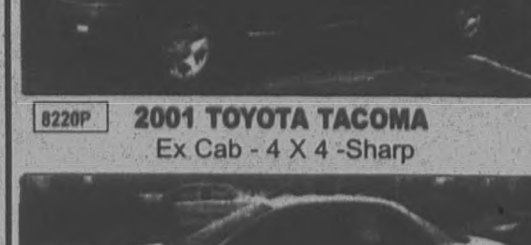
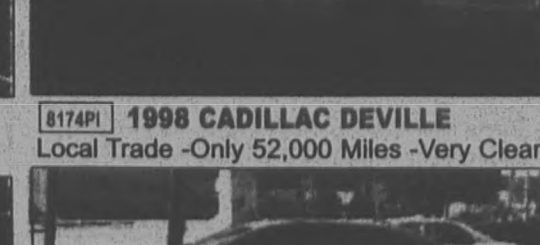

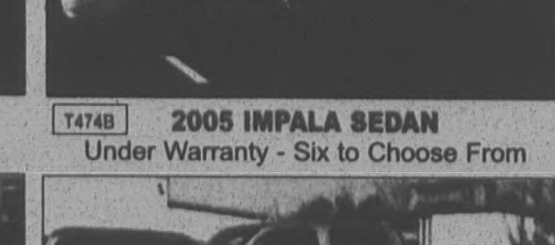


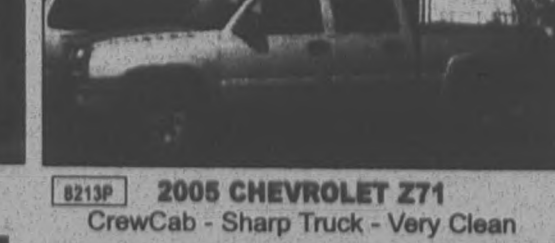
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